

of our nation's largest stockpiles of missiles at Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota.

Captain Akers' military decorations include the National Defense Service Medal and Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with one Oak Leaf Cluster.

Following his time in service, Akers relocated to Texas where he operated a successful small business. In 1993, he would embark on a new mission following his election to the Plano City Council where he served as both Deputy Mayor Pro Tem and Mayor. During his time as Mayor, he founded the Collin County Mayors' Alliance and was credited with bringing the Dr Pepper headquarters to town.

In 2002, Captain Akers was diagnosed with a lung disease that would eventually result in a double lung transplant. His unique experience generated a new passion for organ donation advocacy and he remains a staunch supporter for the cause. Akers also served in the role of President and CEO of the Celina Chamber of Commerce until his recent retirement. In his personal life, Jeran is the proud father of three children with whom he has instilled a love of country. His eldest son Tyler followed in his father's footsteps by joining the Air Force, and his younger son, Josh, is a fallen Marine. Today, Jeran, and his wife, Victoria, continue spending time in the community and enjoying their five grandchildren. Captain Akers has been a steadfast example of service before self both to his nation and through his dedication to involvement within our local community.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Captain Akers for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

THE COURTS SPORTS COMPLEX

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Courts Sports Complex of Northglenn, Colorado for receiving the City of Northglenn Investment Award.

The Northglenn Investment award is given to a Northglenn business that has made significant investments to improve their business or in the community. This year, the award is being presented to The Courts Sports Complex. This state-of-the-art, multipurpose sports facility is a welcomed addition to the Northglenn community. It hosts thousands of eager spectators and athletes alike each year. The massive 32,000 square foot complex can host basketball, volleyball, and several other sports to create Colorado's next great athletes.

I would like to extend a personal congratulations to the team over at The Courts Sports Complex for receiving this award. They are certainly deserving of all this recognition and more. I would also like to thank them for being such outstanding leaders in the community, and for helping to bring recreation and jobs to Northglenn. I wish The Courts Sports Complex nothing but the best in the future, as they con-

tinue to be a favorite spot for athletes of all ages.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II, KOREAN WAR, AND VIETNAM WAR VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C. on October 27, 2021 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans the opportunity to visit their memorials on The National Mall in Washington, D.C. These memorials were built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on October 27th answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorials. I am proud to include in the RECORD the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

Franklin Adams, Joseph Addante, George Anel, Charles Battaglia, Martin Behn, Margaret Bernal, Willie Berry, James Frederick Bolender, Charles Balwin, Steven Bravo, Roger R. Brinker, Robert Brown, Frank S. Buday, Jimmy D. Cagle, Ramon N. Calderon, Andrew P. Chengary, Terrance L. Chenore, Daniel Ciszek, Glenn Allen Clausel, Jacques William Coakley, James Conaway, Wade Cooper Jr., Joseph Corrigan, Kenneth E. Cramer, Randall Cromwell, Charles F. Cusumano, Marco Dabatic, James Daly, Clement J. Davis, Irving Frank Dewald, Frank Dudek, Sel W. Dunlap Jr., William C. Ouray, John Francis Dwyer Jr., Ansel Howard Eddin, Robert L. Falkenberg, Gordon S. Farrant, Raymond Franco, Raymond Lee Frerichs, Howard A. Fry, David Grauer, Theodore P. Gray, William D. Greenwald, Robert J. Grega, Melvin Hampton, Brent L. Harris, Ralph O. Heatherington, Gerald A. Holcomb, John R. Horner, Richard Kalamir, Ronald Kamykowski, Thomas J. Kelly, Alex Koplinski, Robert Kosciak, Frank Kusbel, Herbert Landy, Jon Lapo, Ronald E. Lefman, David Lindberg, Louis Mack, Michael John Mahoney, William E. Martin, Joseph Mata Jr., Fred V. McClintock, Richard J. Melford, William A. Meloy, Lucian M. Michichic, Joseph F. Milcarek, Francis Raymond Misischia, Norman Moret, Neal E. Morgan, Gary A. Nielsen, Nicholas L. Pappalas, Louis J. Pauly, Juan Peña, Robert G. Peterson, William Francis Pietrowicz, Thaddeus J. Piwowar, Joseph L. Raftery Jr., Robert Reczek, Robert Reger, Joseph Michael Rogers, Steven D. Rogers, Bernard Rosenblum, Robert Wayne Roswold, Harry Sandberg, Robert Sansone, Joseph M. Shone, John Sintich, Michael Siorek, Marvin D. Skidmore, Richard Smerz, Dennis J. Sroka,

Robert Elliott Sussman, Ken Swierczek, Gerald M. Taylor, Thomas Testolin, Daniel Jerome Tomasik, Joseph Vazzana, George Venetis, Roy Joseph Veverka, Terrence Raymond Verderer, Bernard Lee Walat, William Wall, Lawrence Waska, James W. Weinstein, Larry D. Welsh, Edward F. Wicherek, Paul Wilczenski, Johnny L. Williams, DeNorris Williams, William W. Wilson, Gerald M. Wilstein, Thomas Wysocki, Richard E. Zabelski, Thomas S. Zaczekiewicz, Thomas Anthony Zeman, and John Zero.

HONORING RABBI NEIL BRIEF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Rabbi Neil Brief's service to Ezra Hahonim Niles Township Jewish Congregation and the Skokie, Illinois community. In 1971 Rabbi Brief became the Rabbi for the Congregation, and he became Rabbi Emeritus in 2004.

Rabbi Brief overcame poverty as a child and developed his leadership skills by becoming president of the Brooklyn Brownsville Boys Club and coaching two club championship basketball teams.

He attended New York University and distinguished himself at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion through his study of numerology, which he later adapted to meet the needs of his congregants. He worked throughout his higher education, as a waiter, busboy, camp counselor and teaching religious school. He then served his country as an Army Chaplain, counseling soldiers of all faiths and rising to the rank of Captain within two years.

Rabbi Brief helped bring people together. He brought Skokie's clergy closer together through spearheading the creation of and serving as president of the Niles Township Clergy Forum. And he helped strengthen his congregants' marriages through his leadership in Jewish Marriage encounter.

Rabbi Brief helped lead and serve his community through his work with the Skokie Commission on Family Services, the Rotary Club, the United Way of Skokie Valley and many other service organizations.

He has always stood by those who were oppressed and through his congregational, interfaith, political and humanist work, helped create Skokie spirit and become a true leader in the community. He helped organize rallies drawing thousands of people to protest prejudice in the community.

Rabbi Brief trained as a Reform rabbi and is a member of the rabbinical organizations of Judaism's Reform, Conservative, and Reconstructionist.

Rabbi Brief and his beloved late wife Erica, raised three children in Skokie—Dena, David, and Debra—all of whom graduated from Niles North High School. They were married for 57 years.

On this momentous occasion, I wish to congratulate Rabbi Neil Briefs 50 years of service to Ezra Hahonim Niles Township Jewish Congregation and the Skokie, Illinois community. He has been a treasured friend to me and my family, and an inspiring leader in our community.